

Navy-Office, 19th December, 1711.

Estimate of the Debt of Her Majesty's Navy on the Heads hereafter-mention'd, as it stood on the 30th of September last, with what thereof has and will be satisfy'd by the *South Sea Stock*, pursuant to the late Act of Parliament on that behalf, and what remains of the said Debt on the said 30th of September to be discharg'd.

With OBSERVATIONS thereupon:

Heads of the Naval Estimates.		Debts as they stood on the 30th Sept. 17 11.		What of the said Debt has been discharged by the South-Sea Stock.		What of the said Debt remains to be discharged.	
		Particulars.		Totals.			
		Before this Reign.	Since this Reign.				
D UE on Bills in the Second Register-Book, as namely for Purfers Ballance Bills, and for Extra necessary Money, Pensions, Half Pays, Surgeons Free Gifts, &c. incur'd before this Reign, as by an Account thereof sent to the Right Honourable the Lord High Treasurer, on the 10th of December, 1711: in order to be taken into the South-Sea Stock		16409 16 00		17146 17 09	17146 17 09		
For Interest allow'd by the above-said Act for the aforesaid Debt, from 25th of March, 1711. to the 25th of December, 1711.			737 01 09				
Wear and Tear, Ordinary and Extraordinary Repairs.							
Due to pay off all the Bills enter'd in Course on the Ordinary and Extraordinary of her Majesty's Navy to Lady-day, 1711: as by an Account thereof sent to the Right Honourable the Lord High Treasurer on the 16th of October past, in order to be taken into the South-Sea Stock.			1677064 07 03				
Interest accruing thereon to the said 25th of March, 1711.			197208 05 01	1854096 11 02	1854096 11 02		
Interest allowed by the said Act for the afore-said Debt from the 25th of March, 1711. to the 25th of December, 1711.			79823 18 10				
On the said Book of Course from the 25th of March, 1711. to the 30th of September, 1711.			234008 19 11	235014 09 09	235014 09 09		
Interest accruing thereon			1005 09 10				
To her Majesty's Yards and Rope-Yards, for the Ordinary and Extraordinary thereof			350489 00 00	350489 00 00	350489 00 00		
For the Freight of Hospital Ships and Tenders; as also for Stores deliver'd into her Majesty's several Yards, for which no Bills were made out on the aforesaid 30th of Sept. 1711.			41987 14 01	41987 14 01	41987 14 01		
Seamens Wages.							
Due to Men remaining unpaid upon the Books of Ships paid off since the 13th of Febr. 1688.		57824 13 05	212517 02 07	270341 16 00			
To Ships in Sea pay			1829724 00 00	1829724 00 00			2126978 19 04
To pay off and discharge all Bills enter'd in Course for Surgeons Necessarys, Bountys to Widows and Orphans, Pilotage, &c. on the Head of Seamens Wages			26913 03 04	26913 03 04			
Victualling Debt as per an Estimate receiv'd from those Commissioners.							
D UE to pay off all the Bills enter'd in Course to the 25 March, 1711. as by an Account thereof sent to the Right Honourable the Lord High Treasurer, the 14th of September, 1711. by those Commissioners, in order to be taken into the South-Sea Stock			1764762 02 04				
For Interest accruing thereon to the 25th of March, 1711.			82035 18 07	1929874 06 10	1929874 06 10		
Interest allowed by the said Act for the afore-said Debt, from 25th of March, 1711. to the 25th of December, 1711.			83076 05 11				
On the said Book of Course from the 25th of March, 1711. to the 30th of Septem. 1711.			219568 13 11	220799 07 04	220799 07 04		
Interest accruing thereon			1239 13 05				
For Extra Freights and Donorages to Victualling Ships sent to Lisbon and into the Mediterranean with Provisions for the Service of her Majesty's Fleet in those Parts, and for Provisions deliver'd into Stores, and other Services performed before the 30th of September, 1711. for which Bills were not then made out; as also to Bills of Exchange, and necessary Money to Purfers Wages, to the Officers, Workmen and Labourers, employ'd in the several Yards. For Short Allowance of Victuals to Seamen serving on board her Majesty's Fleet; and for Contingencies, &c.			340206 06 06	340206 06 06	340206 06 06		
Sick and Wounded, and for Exchange of French Prisoners, the Debt of that Office as per an Estimate, receiv'd from those Commissioners, viz. Due for the Service of the Sick and Wounded Seamen on board her Majesty's Fleet			82545 19 06 1/2				
For Subistence of French Prisoners			20742 02 05	115194 17 03			
To Bills of Exchange from foreign Parts			12906 15 02 1/2				

Total → 74430 00 00 713751 00 00 7451250 00 11 45

Office, 1st Decem^r 1711
no Remaining on the said 30th of September last, of the South Sea Stock, to be applied towards the Debts of the Navy, Victualling, and Sick and Wounded, to Michaelmas 1711, the Sum of

There was granted by Parliament, in Page 403. of the Act for Establishing a Trade to the South Sea, for the Debts of the Navy, Victualling, and Sick and Wounded, to Michaelmas 1711, the Sum of

In Page 404. of the said Act, there is a Sum of 378859 ^{l.} 5 ^{s.} 8 ^{d.} directed for the Debts incurred between the 29th September, 1710. and 25th of December following, in the several Offices of the Navy, Victualling and Transports, and for Interest on Army and Transport Debentures, whereof is to be applied to the Debt of the Navy, on the head of Wear and Tear 98720 ^{l.} 3 ^{s.} 0 ^{d.} and on the head of Victualling 228275 ^{l.} 12 ^{s.} 5 ^{d.} as per Letter from William Lowndes, Esq; of the 29th November past

The aforesaid Act having also made Provision for Interest of the said Debt, from the 25th of March, 1711. to the 25th of December following, which Interest, as by the aforesaid Account for the Debts on the Second Book, appears to be 737 ^{l.} 1 ^{s.} 9 ^{d.} And on the head of Wear and Tear 76823 ^{l.} 18 ^{s.} 10 ^{d.} and for the Victualling, 83076 ^{l.} 5 ^{s.} 11 ^{d.} and make altogether the Sum of

There has been Received by the Treasurer of her Majesty's Navy, South-Sea Stock, out of the 500000 ^{l.} granted by the said Act, for the current Year, 1711. Whereof, by an Order from the Right Honourable the Lord High-Treasurer, of the 2d of October last, pursuant to her Majesty's Warrant, under her Royal Sign, Manual, dated the Day preceding, there was to be applied for the Course of the Navy, to Michaelmas 1711. the Sum of 237386 ^{l.} 0 ^{s.} 0 ^{d.} And for the Course of the Victualling, 51214 ^{l.} 7 ^{s.} 2 ^{d.} making together the Sum of

There has been Subscribed to the South Sea Stock, by the Treasurer of the Navy, Tallys on the General Mortgage, 1710. for the like Sum in the said Stock, to be applied to the Course of the Victualling, to Michaelmas, 1711.

Of which, there has been applied to the Services of the Navy and Victualling, as appears in the proper Column, in the foregoing Account, towards the Debt to Michaelmas, 1711. the Sum of

Remains of the abovesaid South Sea Stock, to be farther applied, the Sum of

On the 30th of September last, There was Remaining in the Hands of the late and present Treasurers of the Navy, the Tallys and Money hereafter mentioned, (over and above the Assignments of the Navy and Victualling Boards.) To be applied to the Services thereof. Viz.

		L. s. d.		
Treasurers of Sir Tho. Littleton.	Tallys On Reverfionary Annuitys	46093	0	0
	On half Subsidies on a General Mortgage, 1709.	4095	3	3
	In Money Ditto, for the Victualling	2278	6	6
Robert Walpole, Esq;	On the 4th General Mortgage, 1709.	7	10	7
	Tallys On the 12th 4 s. Aid	62	18	9
	On the 14th 4 s. Aid	8000	0	0
	On Candle	31800	0	0
	In Money Ditto, and several Tallys for the Victualling	93	19	11
Charles Cesar, Esq;	On the 14th 4 s. Aid	5010	2	6
	On Malt, Anno 1711.	6592	3	10
	Tallys On Malt, Anno 1711.	44000	0	0
	On Hops	110400	0	0
	In Money Ditto, for the Victualling	14390	16	8
		73914	19	8
		8215	11	7

THE Debts Remaining (by the aforesaid Account) to be satisfied, amounts to the Sum of

Towards which the Remains of the South-Sea Stock, Tallys and Money in the late and present Treasurers of the Navys hands, as aforementioned, amounts to the Sum of

Wanting on the said 30th of September last, to Discharge the said Debts, the Sum of

But towards answering the said Debt, there has been Received since Michaelmas last, by the Treasurer of the Navy, for the Service thereof, the Sum of

Remains to be supplied to the Navy, of the Sum Voted for it the last Session of Parliament

So that if the Navy could be supplied with the abovesaid Remains, the Charge between Michaelmas, 1710. and Michaelmas, 1711. would exceed the Sum granted for the Debts, and what was Voted by the Honourable House of Commons, but the Sum of

But the produce of the Funds, granted by the Parliament in their last Sessions, falling short to answer the Sums Voted; The Proportion of the said Deficiencies, which will fall to the Navy, as per Letter from Tho. Harley, Esq; amounts to the Sum of

And consequently, there will Remain unprovided for, the Sum of

OBSERVATIONS

OBSERVATIONS

On the Foregoing ACCOUNT.

THE first Observation that is obvious upon perusal of this Paper, is, That this Estimate of the Debt of the Navy, as it stood on the 30th of September, 1711. is made up by carrying on the former Accounts of the Debt of the Navy, and adding to the old Debt the Increase that has been made upon the several Heads betwixt Michaelmas 1710. and Michaelmas 1711.

By this Account it appears at the Foot of the Column of Totals, that notwithstanding all that has been said of paying the Debts of the Nation, the Debt of the Navy was at Michaelmas-day last 7,231,788 l.

Whereof there has been discharg'd, as in the next Column, by South-Sea Stock, 2,256,931 l. 12 s. 10 d. and then the Debt at Michaelmas last remaining to be discharg'd was, as in the last Column, 2,974,856 l.

Towards which there was of South Sea Stock not applied to any Service, 1,818,941 l. 1 s. 8 d. and in Talleys and Money remaining in the Hands of the several Treasurers of the Navy, 354,954 l. 13 s. 3 d. which making together 2,173,895 l. 14 s. 11 d. there remain'd a Debt at Michaelmas last no ways discharg'd or provided for of 800,961 l.

But as a Debt of above 800,000 l. incurr'd in one Year must appear very extraordinary, not only because it is a far greater Debt than was incurr'd in the Navy in any one Year during the whole late Administration, but because this Parliament had so lately declar'd against all Exceedings as *Illegal and Unwarrantable*, it was absolutely necessary to colour this over, and by first deducting what had been receiv'd since Michaelmas, and then by deducting what had been paid, short of the Sums voted by Parliament, the real Debt of 800,961 l. 2 s. 2 d. is very handsomely reduc'd to 3562 l. 15 s. 4 d. and there it is said, *If the Navy could be supplied with the aforesaid Remains, the Charge between Michaelmas 1710. and Michaelmas 1711. would exceed the Sum granted for the Debts, and what was voted by the Honourable House of Commons but the said Sum of 3562 l. 15 s. 4 d.*

By this Paragraph it plainly appears, that the Expence of the Navy betwixt Michaelmas 1710. and Michaelmas 1711. is the only Account concern'd in this Question; which demonstrates that the 497,216 l. 6 s. 1 d. receiv'd by the Treasurer of the Navy since Michaelmas, cannot be admitted as lessening the Debt incurr'd before Michaelmas. This Estimate of the Debt is dated the 19th of Dec. 1711. which within a few Days is another entire Quarter, and it must be admitted there has been an Expence made in the Navy in that time, as well as there has been Money receiv'd and paid: To deduct then the Money receiv'd since Michaelmas, and not to bring to Account the Expence that has been made in the same time, is to take Credit for Five Quarters, and charge themselves with but Four. Besides, if the Money receiv'd since Michaelmas has been applied to discharge Debts incurr'd before Michaelmas, the whole Quarter's Expence betwixt Michaelmas and Christmas is unprovided for, and must be added to the Debt, and every Quarter's Expence is estimated at 524,000 l. Or if this Money has been apply'd to Services perform'd since Michaelmas, there can be no pretence to say, It lessens the Debt incurr'd before that time; And it is highly probable this was the Case, because we have heard so much of paying Ready Money upon all Contracts made since Michaelmas, which could be supplied out of this Money only.

What immediately follows as little contributes towards lessening the Debt: To say, that the Navy has receiv'd 295,182 l. 14 s. 9 d. short of the Sums voted, is giving a very good reason for so much of the increase of the Debt. But this was likewise the Case in every Year during the late Administration, and was urg'd as a necessary cause of the increase of the old Debt; but this was so entirely exploded the last Year, that I can scarce believe what was then declar'd a *dangerous Invasion of the Rights of Parliament*, will now be thought right and justifiable: But tho it be admitted as a necessary cause for increasing the Debt, the Debt will still remain the same until that Money is receiv'd to discharge it; so that I'm afraid, if (as is said) there was wanting on the said 30th of September last to discharge the said Debt the Sum of 800,961 l. 2 s. 2 d. the Publick will find they have little left to pay upon these Two Considerations; tho it may serve a present Turn, and be an Amusement to

such Gentlemen as will give themselves the trouble to look no farther, to find at the foot of the Account such a trifling Exceeding as 3562 l. 1 s. 4 d.

But for the better understanding this whole Matter, 'tis necessary now to observe, that the first Provision made in the *South Sea Act* is for the whole Debt of the Navy, as it stood at Michaelmas 1710. and amounted to 5,130,539 l. 5 s. 5 d. There is a farther Provision made for Debts incurr'd in the several Offices betwixt Michaelmas 1710. and Christmas 1710. whereof the Expence in the Course of the Navy and Victualling in that time amounted to 324,995 l. 15 s. 5 d. which being computed into the Total of the Debts is made part of the Capital of the South Sea Stock, and thereby discharg'd. There is afterwards a Clause directing the *Commissioners of the Navy and Victualling* to cause an Account of the Debts in their respective Offices, due on the 25th of March 1711. to be made up and stated, and transmitted to the Treasury, in order to be subscribed to the *South Sea Stock*: But this not being computed into the Total of the Debts, is not provided for in the Capital of the Stock, and consequently cannot be paid out of any part thereof, which by the Act is applied to other Services; but must be supplied either out of the 500,000 l. granted for part of the Provision for that Year's Service, or out of such Talleys on the General Mortgage as had been subscrib'd to the South Sea Stock by the Treasurer of the Navy. The Proportion of the 500,000 l. allotted for the Service of the Navy we find to be 288,600 l. 7 s. 2 d. and the General Mortgage Talleys subscribed by the Treasurer of the Navy to be 168,100 l. making together 456,700 l. 7 s. 2 d. which was all the South Sea Stock that was made applicable to the current Service of the Navy for last Year, except the 324,995 l. 15 s. 5 d. which in the *South Sea Act* is added to the Capital Stock. But yet we find that over and above the Debts incurr'd between Mich. and Christmas, provided for in the Bill, and the Expence betwixt Christmas and Lady-day, for which Power was given, but no Provision made, all the Bills register'd in Course in the Navy and Victualling, from Lady day 1711. to Michaelmas 1711. are likewise discharg'd by the *South Sea Stock*; so that the whole Year's Expence upon the Course of the Navy and Victualling between Michaelmas 1710. and Michaelmas 1711. is discharg'd by the South Sea Stock, which amounts to 1,127,134 l. 11 s. 9 d. altho there was power by Act of Parliament to apply no more than 781,696 l. 2 s. 7 d. The difference is 345,438 l. 9 s. 5 d. To which I will add no more, but ask, Out of what part of the South Sea Stock this was paid, and what there is to replace it? Or with what Justice the Contractors were obliged to take their Payments in the South Sea Stock at such great Discounts, for Services, which 'tis most evident, the Parliament design'd should be answer'd out of the Ready Money granted for this Year's Service?

But altho there was a Power given by the Act of Parliament to Discharge the Debts of the Navy, incurr'd betwixt Michaelmas 1710. and Lady 1711. in the manner above explain'd. I presume, it will not be pretended, That this was granted as an additional Supply to the Navy, over and above the 2,200,000 l. granted for the Service of the Year, 1711. but must be understood as a Power to apply so much of the *South-Sea Stock*, to the current Service of the Year, as part of the Supply granted for that Purpose; If then the Design of the Parliament was to limit the Expence of the Navy to the Sums Voted for that Service, in the Committee of Supply, where the proportions of Expence for all parts of the Service are always Limited and Adjusted: Let us enquire how far the Charge of the Navy, betwixt Michaelmas 1710. and Michaelmas 1711. has exceeded the Supply granted for that Year's Service; and this may be done, by considering it in two different Views, wherein all the Facts are taken from the foregoing Estimates, or from Accounts, made up by the Commissioners of the Navy, and Victualling, of the Debts of the Navy, and Victualling from Christmas 1710. to Lady-Day 1711. or from the Report of the Commissioners of Publick Accounts; and it will be no objection, that the Exceedings are not just the same in the different Views, because they are grounded only upon such gross Computations as are taken from those Accounts; and 'tis not pretended here, to State the exact Exceedings, which cannot be adjusted without a full and particular Account of the Receipts, Issues, and all the particular Expence upon each Head of the Navy.

There was granted for the Service of the Navy,
(exclusive of the Ordnance) for the Service of
the Year, 1711. l. s. d.
2,096,000 0 0

The Navy had received between Michaelmas, 1710. and Michaelmas,
1711. in South-Sea Stock.

For Debts incur'd in the Navy and Victualling Offices, from Michaelmas, 1710. to Christmas, 1710.	l. s. d.
324,995 15 5	
For Ditto, from Christmas, 1710. to Lady-Day, 1711.	
346,924 19 3	
For Ditto, from Lady-Day, 1711. to Michaelmas, 1711.	
455,843 17 1	

The Navy had likewise receiv'd in that Time, from the Exchequer, as by Account from the Commissioners of Publick Accounts.

Of which there Remaining at Michaelmas last, in the Hands of the several Treasurers of the Navy, which may be reckon'd part of this Money, not above 300,000 l. and there being Tallys on the General Mortgage deposited with the Bank, which were redeem'd with this Money, amounting to about 145,000 l. making together

There had been expended before Michaelmas, 1711. of the Moneys receiv'd from the Exchequer

And there was wanting at Michaelmas last, to discharge the Debts incur'd before that Time

Total Expence between Michaelmas, 1710. and Michaelmas, 1711.

Which exceeds the Supply granted by Parliament

Another State of the Exceedings.
The Debt of the Navy at Michaelmas, 1711. was
The Debt of the Navy at Michaelmas, 1710. was but

The Debt was then increased
But in the Debt of Michaelmas, 1711. is included

a Year's Interest, from Michaelmas, 1710. to Michaelmas, 1711. of the old Navy and Victualling Bills, due before Mich. 1710. and which are part of the Capital of the South-Sea Stock which Interest is not distinguish'd in the Estimate of the Debt of the Navy, but may be computed at

Which being Deducted, the neat Increase of the Debt, betwixt Michaelmas, 1710. and Michaelmas, 1711. will be

Expended of the Money received from the Exchequer, as by the last Account

Total Expence between Michaelmas, 1710. and Michaelmas, 1711.

Which exceeds the Supply granted by Parliament

The small Difference upon these two States, is not worth the Notice, but from what has been said, 'tis evident, that very great Exceedings have been in the Navy last Year, upon which I will make no Reflections, but leave it to other Gentlemen, whose Honour seems to be a little concern'd, to reconcile this Practice, with the Opinions that have lately prevail'd. The Opinion of a private Man, who has no opportunities of being perfectly inform'd of these Matters, but can only make his own Observations upon such Papers, as accidentally fall in his way, may be thought of no Weight or Consequence, but such Regard has been shewn to the Representation made last Sessions of Parliament, that I shall conclude this Paper, with Transcribing one Paragraph from it.

"In Examining into the State of the War, and Looking back from the Beginning of it, we find that in several Years, the Service has been enlarged, and the Charge of it increased beyond the Bounds prescribed, and the usual Supplies granted by Parliament: To this new and illegal Practice, we must, in great measure, ascribe the Rise and Growth of the heavy Debts that lie upon the Nation; Nor does the Consequence of it end there; for we must also represent it to Your Majesty, as a dangerous Invasion of the Rights of Parliament. The Commons must ever assert it as their sole and undoubted Privilege, to grant Money, and to adjust and limit the Proportions of it; And when Your Majesty has recommended to them, to consider of Supplies, and they have deliberated upon the several Estimates for the Annual Services, and considered and determined what the Nation is able to bear, their Proceedings would be very vain and ineffectual, if, after the respective Sum are stated, and granted, those, through whose Hands the Disposition of them passes, are allowed, in any Manner, to alter and enlarge them. This is an Attempt which very little differs from serving Money without Consent of Parliament, as will appear to Your Majesty from this one Consideration, That a Charge of that kind once incur'd, and laid as a Debt upon the Navy, or any other Publick Office, is so far binding upon Parliament, that, how little soever they approve of the Means by which it was contracted, yet the Publick Credit being pawn'd, the Commons cannot, without the Ruin of That, refuse to provide for it."

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